

## SSI In Vermont

People in financial need who are age 65 or older or people of any age (including children) who are blind or have a disability may be eligible for monthly cash payments from the federal government. The payments are called Supplemental Security Income (SSI).

You may be eligible for SSI payments if you have little or no income, and if the value of the things you own is less than \$2,000 if you are single, or \$3,000 if you are married. We do not count the value of your home. We usually do not count the value of your car. We may not count certain other assets. Call us for more information.

In addition to meeting the income limits, you must live in the U.S. or the Northern Mariana Islands **and** be in one of the following groups:

- U.S. citizens or nationals;
- certain American Indians;
- lawful permanent residents with 40 work credits;
- certain noncitizens with a military service connection, and their spouses or unmarried dependent children;
- certain noncitizens lawfully residing in the U.S. who are blind or disabled or who were receiving SSI on August 22, 1996; or
- certain Amerasian immigrants, Cuban/Haitian entrants, refugees, asylees or individuals whose deportation or removal has been withheld may be eligible for seven years after the date their immigration status was granted.

For more information about noncitizen eligibility requirements, ask for the factsheet, *Supplemental Security Income for Noncitizens* (Publication No. 05-11051).

Also, you must apply for any other money benefits for which you may be eligible.

Even though the Social Security Administration runs the program, SSI is not the same as Social Security. Money for SSI payments comes from the general fund of the U.S. Treasury.

The state of Vermont adds money to the federal payment. For the convenience of SSI recipients, the state of Vermont and the federal government have agreed to include the amount in the federal payment. Therefore, SSI recipients receive one U.S. government payment during the first week of each month with federal and state money included.

The back of of this factsheet has a table showing the year 2000 maximum monthly payment amounts for SSI recipients in different living arrangements.

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### Medical Assistance

If you receive SSI payments, you usually get medical assistance (Medicaid) automatically. A separate Medicaid application isn't necessary. If you have questions about Medicaid, you should contact your local department of social welfare.

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### Food Stamps

When you receive SSI, you also may be eligible for food stamps. Food stamps can help you buy more food without spending more money. Social Security doesn't decide if you can get food stamps. However, people who live in a household where everyone is applying for or receiving SSI may apply for food stamps at a Social Security office.

## Other Social Services

Additional social services are available to SSI recipients through their local department of social welfare. These services include:

- information, referral and follow-up services;
- homemaker and chore services;
- community placement services; and
- rehabilitation services.

For more information on these and other social services, contact your local office.

## SSI Payments

The amounts shown on the bottom of this factsheet include both federal and state money. Not all SSI recipients receive the maximum payment amounts. Payments may be lower if you have other income. Your Social Security office can give you more information about payment levels and how income affects them.

In addition to monthly payments, people who have special or emergency needs may apply for additional funds at the office of their local department of social welfare.

## For More Information

You can get recorded information 24 hours a day, including weekends and holidays, by calling Social Security's toll-free number, **1-800-772-1213**. You can speak to a service representative between the hours of 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. on business days. Our lines are busiest early in the week and early in the month, so, if your business can wait, it's best to call at other times. Whenever you call, have your Social Security number handy.

People who are deaf or hard of hearing may call our toll-free TTY number, 1-800-325-0778, between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. on business days.

You also can reach us on the Internet. Type [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov) to access Social Security information.

The people at Social Security can tell you what information you need to apply for SSI. Parents and guardians can apply on behalf of children under age 18 who are blind or have a disability.

We treat all calls confidentially—whether they're made to our toll-free numbers or to one of our local offices. We also want to ensure that you receive accurate and courteous service. That is why we have a second Social Security representative monitor some incoming and outgoing telephone calls.

## SSI Payment Levels

	Individual	Couple
Independent Living	\$569.66	\$ 877.28
Household of Another	379.72	559.85
Assistive Community Care	559.25	863.50
Licensed Community Care Home	730.69	1,317.89
Custodial "Family" Home	608.38	1,094.02
Medicaid Facility	47.25	94.50

Social Security Administration  
SSA Publication No. 05-11128  
January 2000 (*Recycle prior editions*)



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